



Amigos de Guadalupe
Center for Justice & Empowerment

ANNUAL REPORT

FY22-23

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023





Our Core Beliefs

We believe everyone deserves to live in a just and equitable society where every person is empowered to achieve their dreams.

Our Vision

Inspired by the power of our vibrant, determined community, our vision is to bring about transformational change in East San Jose.

Our Mission

At Amigos, we ensure that the basic needs of our community are met, deliver high-quality programs, and mobilize and organize for justice.

Our Services

We do this by providing housing and rental assistance, mental health services, legal immigration services, education programs, and community organizing programs that advocate for systems change.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Amigos Family,

I hope this report finds you in good health and high spirits.

This has been a year of renewed connection with the Mayfair Community, solidarity and service with newly arrived families, powerful actions to take care of each other, and the love of justice that serves as the foundation of all that Amigos does.

This year has also brought opportunities to think carefully and listen deeply to our community as we embarked on a strategic planning process to chart our course for the next 3 years (to be shared in January) and a Si Se Puede Collective commitment to embark on a joint initiative to end poverty in Mayfair. We don't believe it will be easy, but we do know that, with the power of community, it will be possible.

At Amigos de Guadalupe, we have always been committed to fostering justice and empowerment within our community. We do this through our commitment to Welcoming and Radical Hospitality to every person who walks through our doors. This year we have served over 38,000 people including hundreds of unhoused families and children seeking permanent housing, immigrant legal services, rental assistance, education support, mental health services and a desire to make lasting change for their community.

As we continue in service to the immigrant and unhoused communities, we recognize the importance of collaboration with like-minded people and organizations who share our vision for a better and more equitable society. It is with this in mind that we humbly share our 2022-2023 Amigos de Guadalupe Annual Report.

Together, we can create a brighter, more just, and empowered future for our community, but it will take all of us. As we enter 2024, we look forward to making transformational change together.



Maritza Maldonado
Founding Executive Director
Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice and Empowerment

Our Year at a Glance

Amigos experienced many new opportunities and challenges this year, and continued to move towards transformational change in East San Jose, in close partnership with our powerful community.



July 2022

Amigos learned that the Cesar Chavez Family Home was For Sale. Knowing that this sacred space must be protected, Amigos mobilized funding partners and became the stewards of this space to honor Cesar's legacy and serve the community he loved. Currently working to design and activate a Chavez Center for Community Action.



August 2022

Summertime kicked off our "Bridge Builders for Justice" summer program, serving almost 100 children 5 days/week. Many students traveled to San Francisco and SJSU's Arch of Dignity, Equality, and Justice!



September 2022

We officially celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Amigos' service to the community with a powerful evening of sharing stories, friendship, and community celebration!



November 2022

72 low-income, Spanish-speaking community members graduated from our 2 Power Academies, where they spent 6 weeks learning new tools to make them stronger leaders and community advocates, focused on breaking down systems of oppression.



October 2022

We opened Hampton Inn this year, our 3rd interim housing site, so that we are now able to serve 120 unhoused families at Casitas and the 2 hotels. With a safe place to sleep at night and the support of the Amigos team, families are able to move toward permanent housing!



December 2022

Our rental assistance program helped a 52-year-old gentleman who was deep in the eviction process and facing imminent homelessness. After weeks of hard work and advocacy by the Amigos team, his landlord agreed to let him stay, just in time for the holidays.





January 2023

Pets are beloved family members and that is even more true for our unhoused friends. So the Safe Park team arranged for 2 Pet Clinics to help keep their pets healthy, get neutered, and receive vaccinations.



February 2023

Amigos offered valuable, free tax preparation services to our community, helping put \$1.7M back into the hands of community over the last 10 years. Neighborhood residents rely on this service and line up around the block!

March 2023

Together with our Collective partners, Amigos staff visited Harlem Children's Zone, as a learning step to launch a new initiative, Si Se Puede Mayfair, to end poverty in Mayfair. It is a bold vision and we are committed to making it happen as a community.



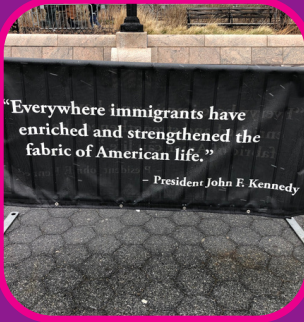
May 2023

With the lifting of Title 42, many families traveled months and months from Central and South America to reach the U.S. to escape the danger in their home countries. Many arrived in San Jose knowing no one and Amigos welcomed them with open arms and open hearts (and with food, friendship, temp housing, support, and love).



April 2023

Amigos added a 2nd highly qualified immigration attorney to our team, greatly expanding much-needed legal services in East San Jose, including monthly asylum info sessions for newly arrived families who are applying for asylee status.



June 2023

At our annual Scholarship Mass and Ceremony, Amigos awarded 51 scholarships to first-generation college students who are attending colleges ranging from Harvard to Deanza.

The Amigos' Team!

None of this amazing work would be possible without the amazing Amigos' Team, who are deeply connected to the community.



The Amigos' Impact

Serving our Community

38,232+

adults, youth and children benefitted from Amigos' programs this year

On the Path to Permanent Housing: Rental Assistance, Casitas, and Interim Housing

62%

of families in our unhoused programs have moved into PERMANENT housing, which is more than DOUBLE the County standard

2,527

people were prevented from being homeless, since the start of the pandemic

800

people living in their vehicles have received Safe Park services since the start of the program, with 87% moving to a positive place

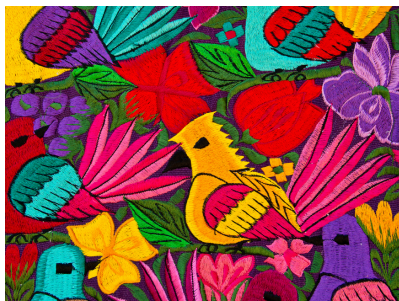


"I came to Casitas and our lives changed. The Amigos team makes us feel so warm and welcome, and they really want to help you. Words can't describe how helpful they really are. The Casitas program gave me and my family stability, so I can go to work and not have to stress about where we're going to sleep at night. The best part about Casitas is meeting other families and learning their stories. We connect in a strong community way."

- Casitas Mom with 6 children



The Youth are our Future: Educating and Supporting our Young People



4,084

children and youth (0-18) live in Mayfair, and we intend to connect with each of their families in our effort to end poverty in Mayfair

255

children attended our Summer Under the Sun and afterschool programs in 2023, including field trips to the SF Exploratorium, SJSU, Global Impact Day with the 49ers, the Tech Interactive Museum, and a DJ lesson by a SJSU Mentor.

51

first-generation college students from East San Jose received Amigos' scholarships in 2023

"I was living on a friend's couch and I didn't know where I would eat every night, so my grades weren't straight A's like most scholarships require. But Amigos was different. More than the money, the Amigos' scholarship meant that someone believed in me."

- Amigos' Scholarship Recipient, 2022

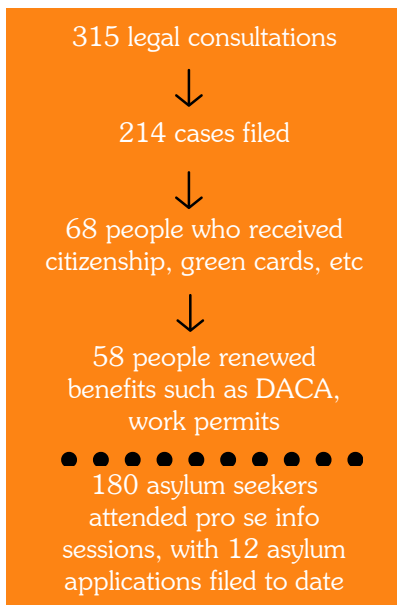
More on the Amigos' Impact

Welcoming Newly Arrived Families

550+
newly arrived adults, youth and children welcomed by Amigos with open arms, temporary housing, food, legal services, and support, including over 300 children, as of December 2023



Making Long-Term Systemic Change: Policy, Organizing, and Immigration Legal Services



72
community members graduated from the Amigos' Power Academy since 2022, where they focused on leadership development and community action



A Peruvian family celebrated a grant of permanent residence after 22 years of living in the shadows without lawful status. Amigos' attorneys filed their green card applications this spring and secured approvals in September. Mom and Dad are proud parents of a U.S. Marine, and hope to continue working toward their goals. Mom is especially grateful to be able to travel to Peru to visit her ailing father, and Dad is excited to pursue a nursing degree.

Chavez Home and Si Se Puede Mayfair, to end poverty in the Mayfair community



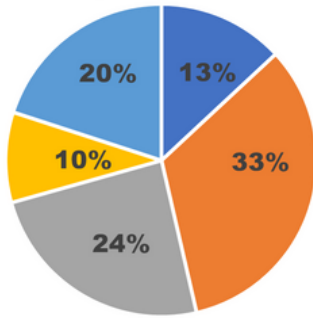
Became the community stewards of the Cesar Chavez Family Home to protect the Chavez legacy and serve the East San Jose community that he loved. Currently moving forward with design, build, and launch of the Cesar Chavez Community Action Center



In partnership with the Si Se Puede Collective, we are currently launching the Si Se Puede Mayfair Initiative to **end poverty** in Mayfair. Our plan to end poverty for the 14,165 Mayfair residents will include defending our families from displacement, nurturing the wealth of our community, and weaving a **cradle-to-cane safety net**.

FY 22-23 Financial Overview

TRANSITIONAL AND EMERGENCY HOUSING \$8,105,695



- Casitas de Esperanza
- Quality Inn
- Financial Assistance
- Hampton Inn
- Safe Park

\$8,105,695

Provided in housing assistance

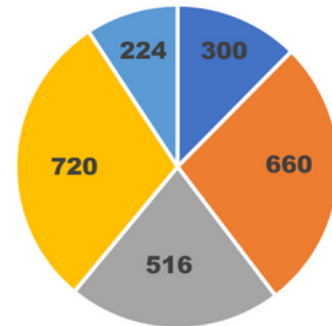
9,058

Families called or walked into the Amigos de Guadalupe Office seeking one or more of our wrap-around services.

2,524

Families met their basic needs via Amigos' housing programs, food, financial assistance, legal counseling and after-school/summer educational programs.

HOUSING AVAILABILITY 2,420



- Casitas de Esperanza
- Quality Inn
- Financial Assistance
- Hampton Inn
- Safe Park

AVERAGE COST TO ASSIST A FAMILY

\$1,285



Muchas Gracias and
Thank You to
All Our Supporters
and Community



**A Special Thank You to our 2023 Member-level virtual sponsors:
Destination:Home and Warmenhoven Foundation**

Si Se Puede Collective Partners



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Amigos de Guadalupe
Center for Justice & Empowerment



Leadership Team

Maritza Maldonado, *Founder and Executive Director*
Laura Delgado, *Director of Unhoused Programs*
Stephanie Jayne, *Director of Social Impact and Sustainability*
Jeremy Barousse, *Director of Policy and Organizing*
Mayra Cerda, *Director of Education Programs*
Jose Murillo, *Director of Place Based Initiatives*
Aurora Olivares, *Director of Economic Impact & Development*
Christine Carbone, *Chief Financial Officer*